

Licensing and Appeals Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2019

Present: Councillors Ludford – In the Chair

Councillors: Grimshaw, Evans, Flanagan, Hughes, Jeavons, T Judge, Lynch, McHale, Reid and Lyons

Apologies: Councillors Madeleine Monaghan and Stone

LAP/19/03 Minutes

Decision

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2019 as a correct record.

LAP/19/04 Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy – Consideration of temporary extension to the age limit

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing that described that the Hackney Trade representatives have put forward a proposal for a temporary extension to the current age limit contained within the existing Hackney Vehicle Age Policy. The report set out the rationale behind the proposal and provides the Committee with relevant information, considerations, risks and options to support a balanced and informed decision.

A representative from the Hackney Trade addressed the Committee and commented that it would be appropriate to extend the vehicle age limit pending completion of the clean air plan so that the GM Minimum Standards were finalised before drivers changed their vehicles.

Decision

The Committee recommend that;

1. The HCV age limit is extended to a maximum of 13 years from the date of first registration stating:

No Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence will be issued or renewed (including replacement vehicles) for a vehicle more than 13 years since the date of first registration in this or any other country.

2. The extension is limited to a maximum of 12 months and is subject to further review/amendment following GM Minimum Standards proposals.

LAP/19/05 Allocation of Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licences

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing that provided information regarding 4 hackney carriage proprietor licenses no longer issued, and, in line with the policy should be re-allocated by instigating the 'Random Selection Process'.

The random selection process was outlined and copies of the criterion, proposed letter to the trade and 'expression of interest' applications were attached to the report.

The report further recommended that the random selection process remained in place at this time until the outcome of the 2019/20 Licensing Survey was known. This would include an unmet demand survey that would determine if any further licences were required to be issued.

Decisions

1. That the Committee agree to the instigation of a random selection process for the reallocation of the following plates: HV0040, HV0352, HV0501, HV1014
2. The Committee agree that following the allocation of the 4 hackney carriage proprietor licences, the random selection process is temporarily closed but remains in place until the outcome of the Licensing Survey 2019/20. This is on the basis that this includes an unmet demand survey that would determine whether any further licences need to be issued.